

Conbridge Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON

THE HEALTH

OF THE

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT,

IN 1895.



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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE HEALTH

OF THE

TONBRIDGE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT,

IN 1895.

Census 1881.	Census 1891.
No. of Acres.....1,200	No. of Acres.....1,200
Inhabited Houses.....1,808	Inhabited Houses.....1,988
Population .....9,340	Population .....10,117

The population at the middle of 1895 was estimated to be 10,443.

Two hundred and ninety-one births were registered as against 257 in 1894, including 148 of males and 143 of females, giving a birth-rate per 1000 persons estimated to be living in the district of 27.8 as against 24.8 in 1894.

The number of deaths returned amounted to 137 including 66 of males and 71 of females.

The death-rate was 13.1 per 1000 as against 12.1 in 1894.

The Infant Mortality was 106, calculated by the number of deaths of infants under one year to each 1000 births registered.

The birth-rate in England and Wales during 1895 was 30.3 per 1000 persons living; the general death-rate 18.7 and the Zymotic death-rate 2.14. The infant mortality was 161.

Thirteen persons died of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz: one of Scarlet Fever, one of Enteric Fever, 6 of Measles, one of Whooping Cough and 4 of Diarrhoea.

The zymotic death-rate was 1.2 as against 1.1 in 1894.

Under the Infectious Disease Notification Act, 197 cases were reported; including 181 of Scarlet Fever, 3 of Diphtheria, 4 of Enteric Fever and 9 of Erysipelas.

Scarlet Fever. There was a widely-spread prevalence of this disease in the district, 181 cases having occurred, of which 162 were removed to the Isolation Hospital. One only of the cases proved fatal. Details of this epidemic will shortly be given in a Special Report on Scarlet Fever, to be made by the Medical Officer of Health for the information and guidance of the Urban District Council.

Diphtheria. Three cases were notified, none of which took a fatal course.

Enteric Fever. Of the four cases notified, one caused death.

Measles. Six deaths occurred, four of the patients being children under 5 years of age.

Whooping Cough caused one death, that of a child, aged 13 months.

Influenza. One death occurred in February, two in March, and one in June. All four deaths were of adults and the disease was in each case accompanied by some pulmonary complication.

JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE A.

The number of Deaths from all causes and from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases with their Death Rate, the principal causes of Death and the Infant Mortality in the Tonbridge Urban District in each Quarter, 1895.

Quarters.	Total Deaths.	Death rate per 1000	Deaths from seven Zymotic Diseases.	Zymotic Death rate	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Fevers.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea.	Croup.	Influenza.	Erysipelas.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronch. Pleurisy, Pneumonia.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	Other Diseases.	Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1000 Births.	
1st	40	15.2	1	0.3	...	1	3	4	11	2	1	18	64
2nd	43	16.4	6	2.3	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	1	...	1	4	3	3	1	24	101
3rd	21	8.0	3	1.1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	4	2	2	...	10	96
4th	33	12.6	3	1.1	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	3	...	19	166
Totals	137	13.1	13	1.2	...	1	...	1	6	1	4	...	4	...	1	15	21	10	2	71	106	

TABLE B.

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the past ten years and in 1895.

Zymotic Diseases.	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	Average of ten years.	1895
Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0	0
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	1	...	..	...	...	1	2	0.4	1
Diphtheria .....	...	2	1	3	1	...	...	1	2	6	1.6	0
Fevers	1	...	2	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	0.8	1
Measles .....	...	7	...	...	7	1	...	3	...	...	1.8	6
Whooping Cough	9	...	1	4	...	4	14	...	4	2	3.8	1
Diarrhoea	3	9	7	4	...	...	1	4	1	...	2.9	4
Total 7 Zymotics	13	18	11	13	9	5	16	9	8	11	11.3	13
Other Zymotics ...	4	3	1	2	1	5	7	16	7	1	4.7	4
Totals	17	21	12	15	10	10	23	25	15	12	16.0	17

*Report and Schedule of Sanitary Work
carried out by the Sanitary Inspector
from April 1st to Dec. 31st, 1895.*

Notices served (on complaint and otherwise)	71.
New W.C.'s Flushing Cisterns, and W.C.'s repaired.	26.
House drains repaired and un-stopped, Sink Wastes removed outside and disconnected and bell traps re-placed by Gulleys	57.
Residences completely re-drained and disconnected from Sewer	9.
Dust-bins provided	39.
Accumulations of Filth or Manure removed by notice	9.
Wells repaired	1.
Stables re-drained.....	2.
Urinals re-built.....	1.
Nuisances caused by keeping Animals abated	6.
Cases of Over-crowding abated	2.
Houses limewashed and cleansed	7.
Slaughter-houses re-drained and connected with the Sewer	1.
Wells condemned by Analyst.....	7.
Houses supplied with Company's Water.....	60.

The Common Lodging Houses, Cowsheds and Dairies, and Slaughter-houses, have been inspected and with one or two exceptions appear to be conducted in a satisfactory manner. One Cowshed has been registered during the year.

The Elementary Schools have been visited at intervals and various Sanitary improvements have been carried out.

The Work in connection with the prevention of Infectious Disease has been extremely heavy, necessitating nearly 500 visits to infected houses, the removal of 170 cases to hospital, and the disinfecting of about 200 rooms and large quantities of bedding and clothing. The various Schools have been on several occasions thoroughly disinfected under my supervision.

It has been necessary to resort to Legal proceedings in only two instances during the past year, one for Overcrowding etc. in a Common Lodging House, and the other for wilfully failing to notify a case of Scarlet Fever. A Conviction was obtained in each case.

WM. LAURENCE BRADLEY,

ASSOCT. SAN. INST.

Sanitary Inspector.

Building Surveyor's Report, 1895.

BUILDINGS.

Buildings in course of erection have been carefully inspected under the Bye-laws ; only four notices have been served for breaches of the Bye-laws, and it is satisfactory to report that it has not been necessary to take proceedings.

The total number of plans submitted to the Council during the past year amounted to 82 sets, of which 4 were disapproved. The approved plans represented the following works :—94 Dwelling-Houses, 4 buildings of the Factory or Warehouse Class, 1 School, 29 Alterations and small Additions, and 12 New Roads.

Fifty Certificates for the occupation of new houses have been granted.

SEWERAGE.

During the year the Council have laid New Sewers in Owlett's Alley and the back of High Street, Brook Street Lane and Barden Road, comprising a total length of 1,365 feet, and with the necessary Manholes etc.

In addition to the above, 2000 feet of New Sewers have been laid under my supervision on The Lyons Estate, Barden Estate, Manor Grove, and Mr. Stagg's New Road.

A New Manhole has been built opposite the Brewery, in High Street, and 4 Ventilating shafts have been erected in various parts of the town.

The method of dealing with the Sewage at the Works has been re-arranged, and I am confident that we shall not receive the numerous complaints that have been the rule in the past, but considerable further improvement could be obtained if additional tank accommodation were provided.

The two low-lying meadows have been partially under-drained, one of them has been entirely trenched and the other has been levelled in such a manner as to use the Sewage Water to the best advantage both as regards the crop and purification.

Almost the whole of the Town refuse is now carted to the Farm where it is roughly fired and screened, the best portion being then used for carting on to the land and also mixing with the Sewage sludge. There is no reason why the refuse should not be made use of for generating steam for our pumps as I am confident that at least 30 horse power could be thus obtained with the necessary Furnace.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out at the Hospital during the year all of which has been very badly needed, and as a result we are much better equipped and able to cope with such epidemics as we have had to experience. The various work executed comprise an entirely new system of drainage, Galvanized Iron Ward, 40ft. by 20ft. and appurtenances, laying on of the Water Company's Water, New Heating Apparatus, Tar paving and paths.

HIGH STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

The improvement of the High Street which was commenced last year by the pulling down of the old houses from Snelling Row to the Dorset Arms, has been continued by the erection of three shops on the surplus land available after the widening of the street. The Dorset Arms has also been re-built to the new line of frontage, and the remainder of the surplus land will be built on during 1896.

The total length thus dealt with is 198 feet, and the average additional width gained is about 18 feet.

The street has also been widened near the Little Bridge by the erection of three new shops on Mr. Stagg's land in conformity with the new building line. The frontage dealt with at this point is 36 feet, and the additional width thrown into the street is about 10 feet.

In concluding this my first Annual Report, I beg to take the opportunity of thanking the Council for the kindly consideration I have received at their hands.

WM. LAURENCE BRADLEY,

ASSOCT. SAN. INST.

Building Surveyor.

